

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 237

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5064

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJECT: STOPH'S NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS--

SMALL PRAISE FOR THE WESTERN ALLIES "CONTRIBUTION TO

THE DEFEAT OF NAZI GERMANY

1. DURING HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN EAST BERLIN JANUARY 6, WILLI STOPH, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE FOR THE GDR, REFERRED TO THE LIBERATION FROM FASCISM WHICH WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE SOVIET UNION "AND OTHER FORCES OF THE ANTI-HITLER COALITION". STOPH'S REMARK WAS MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF A REFERENCE TO THE FORTHCOMING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEFEAT OF NAZI GERMANY. THIS ANNIVERSARY WILL BE CELEBRATED IN EAST BERLIN, PRESUMABLY BY A MILITARY PARADE AND OTHER "COMMEMORATIVE" EVENTS. THE EXACT FORM OF THIS CELEBRATION HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED NOR HAS THE PARTICIPATION OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. COMMENT. STOPH'S REMARK ABOUT OTHER FORCES (KRAEFTE) PAYS SCANT TRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE WESTERN ALLIES IN THE DEFEAT OF NAZI GERMANY. "KRAEFTE" IN THIS CONTEXT INCLUDES MILITARY FORCES BUT ALSO ENCOMPASSES THE FRENCH RESISTANCE, THE KPD AND A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOST OF OTHER GROUPS WHICH OPPOSED NAZISM. AS IS USUAL IN THE

GDR, STOPH AGAIN HAS SINGLED OUT THE SOVIET UNION AS THE MAJOR
FORCE FOR BRINGING ABOUT THE DEFEAT OF NAZI GERMANY.COOPER

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